

[29th January 1923]

*Report of Mr. Innes regarding the Malabar tenancy problem.*

692 Q.—Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to lay on the table the papers submitted by Mr. Innes when Collector of Malabar dealing with the tenancy problem in Malabar and the reforms he proposed in connexion therewith?

A.—The Government are unable to comply with the request.

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Will the hon. Member in charge be pleased to say whether Mr. Innes has marked those papers as confidential?"

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Yes."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, in spite of that answer, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state for what reason it was treated as confidential? The question is a public one and there is nothing private about it. Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to say what objection he has to place it on the table?"

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"We do not usually place confidential papers on the table."

Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Does the hon. Member regard the question of Malabar tenancy as confidential?"

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"The Government considered a particular report as confidential, but not that the question of Malabar tenancy is a confidential one."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—"Will I be in order, Sir, to give notice of a resolution or a motion requesting the Government to place on the table those papers?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Is it an interpellation addressed to the Law Member?" (laughter).

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI: "It is to you, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think I am also entitled to be given some notice."

Mr. K. PRABHAKARAN TAMPAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the report sent by Mr. Innes was submitted in response to an order from the Government or volunteered by him?"

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"I am sorry, Sir, I cannot discuss that question any further."

*Licence for arms in the Bellary district.*

693 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of licences issued last year in the Bellary district for (1) revolvers, (2) breech-loading guns and (3) muzzle-loading guns respectively;

(b) how many of the above licences were respectively cancelled before the end of the year and how many out of the remaining number were refused renewal for the current year;